

Service Date: January 19, 2006

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF FIVE VALLEYS	)	UTILITY DIVISION
GAS COMPANY, Application for Approval	)	
of Increased Rates for Propane Service in	)	DOCKET NO. D2004.12.202
the Seeley Lake Service Area and Approval	)	
of a Monthly Propane Cost Tracking	)	ORDER NO. 6690a
Procedure	)	

**INTERIM ORDER**

On December 29, 2004, Five Valleys Gas Company (FVG), filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) a request for increased propane rates in the Seeley Lake service area. FVG proposed a total increase in annual revenue of approximately \$83,000, through an approximate 67 percent increase for residential class customers and an approximate 73 percent increase for school class customers. FVG also requested approval of a monthly propane cost tracking procedure or modifications to its existing procedure, removing restrictions and eliminating an unreflected cost adjustment account.

On January 6, 2006, FVG and the Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC), the only intervenor in the proceeding, filed a stipulation that FVG's annual non-gas revenues will increase by \$21,265 and FVG will recover propane costs through its monthly propane cost tracking adjustment procedure without the present tracking procedure restrictions, but will retain its unreflected propane cost adjustment procedure.

The PSC approves the stipulation on an interim basis. FVG will file revised tariffs reflecting this interim approval.

Prior to issuance of a final order regarding stipulations, the PSC customarily allows an opportunity for the public to be heard. The PSC will be issuing a notice of opportunity for hearing on the stipulation. A final order regarding the FVG / MCC stipulation will be issued after public comments are received or, if no comments are received, after the time for receipt of public comments has expired.

Done and dated this 10th day of January, 2006, by a vote of 5 to 0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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GREG JERGESON, Chairman

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BRAD MOLNAR, Vice-Chairman

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DOUG MOOD, Commissioner

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ROBERT H. RANEY, Commissioner

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THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Connie Jones  
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.